

REMARKS

In the above-identified Office Action the Examiner has withdrawn the allowability of claims 3, 16, 18, 20, 42, 43, 46, 58 and 60 in view of the newly discovered reference to Schletterer. Further, the Examiner is now rejecting claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 18, 20, 21, 40, 41, 43, 46, 48, 58, 60, 64 and 65 as anticipated by the patent to Schletterer. Claims 9 to 16 and 49 to 56 have been rejected as unpatentable over Schletterer. However, claims 22 to 39, 62 and 63 have been indicated as allowed while claims 5 to 7, 17 to 19, 44 to 47, 57, 59 and 61 were objected to as dependent on a rejected based claim but allowable if were in independent form.

Based on the Examiner's indication of allowability, applicant has amended claim 1 to now include the restrictions of claim 4 and 5. As such, applicant believes that claims 1, 2, and 6 through 39 are now allowable. Further, claim 40 has been amended to include the restrictions of claim 43 and 44, and accordingly claims 40, 41 and 45 through 61 are now considered allowable.

Applicant hereby requests reconsideration and reexamination thereof.

With the above amendments and remarks, this application is considered ready for allowance and Applicant earnestly solicits an early notice of same. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the subject application, he is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the below-listed number.

Respectfully submitted,

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.



Gerald T. Shekleton

Registration No. 27,466

Date: September 15, 2005
WELSH & KATZ, LTD.
120 South Riverside Plaza
22nd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3913
Telephone: 312/655-1500